

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of communicating over a network, said network having a first gateway device and a second gateway device capable of communicating with each other using a packet protocol, said second gateway device capable of communicating with a communication device over a telephone line, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a call request by said second gateway device from said first gateway device for said communication device;

placing a call by said second gateway device to said communication device over said telephone line;

enabling a tone detector for detecting a tone from said communication device;

detecting said tone from said communication device over said telephone line;

and

enabling a filter, in response to said detecting step, to prevent said tone from reaching said first gateway device.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said communication device is a modem device.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said communication device is a facsimile device.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said tone is an answer tone.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of enabling said tone detector enables said tone detector for a pre-determined period of time.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said tone detector is a fast tone detector.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said filter is a notch filter centered around 2100Hz.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of enabling said filter enables said tone detector for a pre-determined period of time.

5 9. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of informing said first gateway device of said communication device, in response to said detecting step.

10. A method of communicating over a network, said network having a first gateway device and a second gateway device capable of communicating with each other using a packet protocol, said second gateway device capable of communicating with a communication device over a telephone line, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving a call request by said second gateway device from said first gateway device for said communication device;

placing a call by said second gateway device to said communication device over said telephone line;

15 receiving an answer tone from said communication device; and

preventing said answer tone from reaching said first gateway device.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said communication device is a modem device.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said communication device is a facsimile device.

20 13. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of enabling a filter prior to said step of receiving said answer tone, wherein said step of preventing uses said filter to prevent said answer tone from reach said first gateway device.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said step of enabling said filter enables said filter for a pre-determined period of time.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein said filter is a notch filter centered around 2100Hz.

5 16. The method of claim 10 further comprising the steps of:
enabling a fast tone detector prior to said step of receiving said answer tone;
detecting said answer tone using said fast tone detector; and
enabling a filter in response to said detecting step;
wherein said step of preventing uses said filter to prevent said answer tone
10 from reach said first gateway device.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein said step of enabling said filter enables said filter for a pre-determined period of time.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein said filter is a notch filter centered around 2100Hz.

15 19. The method of claim 16, wherein said step of enabling said fast tone detector enables said fast tone detector for a pre-determined period of time.

20 20. A filter for use in conjunction with a first gateway device capable of communicating with a second gateway device using a packet protocol, said first gateway further capable of communicating with a communication device over a telephone line, said filter comprising:

an input capable of receiving a first signal from said communication device;

a filter circuit capable of filtering an answer tone from said first signal to generate a second signal; and

an output to provide said second signal for transmission to said second gateway.

21. The filter of claim 20, wherein said first signal is received from an echo canceler receiving a third signal over said telephone line from said communication device.

22. The filter of claim 20 further comprising a filter enable circuit, wherein said
5 filter enable circuit enables said filter circuit for a pre-determined period of time.

23. The filter of claim 20 further comprising a filter enable circuit coupled to a tone detector circuit, wherein said tone detector circuit receives said first signal from said communication device and enables said filter circuit via said filter enable circuit if said tone detector detects said answer tone.

10 24. The filter of claim 23, wherein said tone detector is enabled for a pre-determined period of time.

25. The filter of claim 23, wherein said first signal is received from an echo canceler receiving a third signal over said telephone line from said communication device.

26. The filter of claim 20, wherein said communication device is a modem device.

15 27. The filter of claim 20, wherein said communication device is a facsimile device.

28. The filter of claim 13, wherein said filter circuit is a notch filter circuit centered around 2100Hz.

29. A computer program product for use in communication over a network, said
20 network having a first gateway device and a second gateway device capable of communicating with each other using a packet protocol, said second gateway device capable of communicating with a communication device over a telephone line, said computer program product comprising:

code for receiving a call request by said second gateway device from said first gateway device for said communication device;

code for placing a call by said second gateway device to said communication device over said telephone line;

5 code receiving an answer tone from said communication device; and
code for preventing said answer tone from reaching said first gateway device.

30. The computer program product of claim 29, wherein said communication device is a modem device.

10 31. The computer program product of claim 29, wherein said communication device is a facsimile device.

32. The computer program product of claim 29 further comprising code for enabling a filter prior to receiving said answer tone, wherein said code for preventing uses said filter to prevent said answer tone from reach said first gateway device.

15 33. The computer program product of claim 32, wherein said code for enabling said filter enables said filter for a pre-determined period of time.

34. The computer program product of claim 32, wherein said filter is a notch filter centered around 2100Hz.

20 35. The computer program product of claim 29 further comprising:
code for enabling a fast tone detector prior to receiving said answer tone;
code for detecting said answer tone using said fast tone detector; and
code for enabling a filter in response to said code for detecting;
wherein said code for preventing uses said filter to prevent said answer tone from reach said first gateway device.

36. The computer program product of claim 35, wherein said code for enabling said filter enables said filter for a pre-determined period of time.

37. The computer program product of claim 35, wherein said filter is a notch filter centered around 2100Hz.

5 38. The computer program product of claim 35, wherein said code for enabling said fast tone detector enables said fast tone detector for a pre-determined period of time.